



Substitute for form 1449A/PTG INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/697,702
				Filing Date	October 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Kotoyoshi MURAKAMI
				Art Unit	3661
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned M. Marc
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740613-139

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
mem		US-4,252,587	02-24-1981	Harden et al.	—
mem		US-6,377,869 B1	04-23-2002	Watanabe et al.	—
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ⁴ Number ⁵ Kind Code ⁶ (if known)				
mem		EP 0 553 885 A1	08-04-1993	Niwa et al.		Full
mem		EP 1 153 694 A2	11-14-2001	Kano et al.		Full
mem		WO 02/078893 A2	10-10-2002	Murakami		Full

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
mem		PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN VOL. 2000, NO. 05, SEPTEMBER 14, 2000, & JP 2000 042759 A (SHOWA ALUM CORP) FEBRUARY 15, 2000***ABSTRACT***	
mem		EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT DATED MARCH 22, 2004	

Examiner Signature	McDiarmid, Marc	Date Considered	10/27/05
--------------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Attorney Docket Number	740613-139
------------------------	------------

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
Examiner Signature	MED Journal Marc		Date Considered 12/27/05

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**